



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

MAR 17 2005

GARY DUNCAN
COACHMEN RV COMPANY, LLC
423 NORTH MAIN STREET
MIDDLEBURY IN 46540

NVS-215
05V-092

Subject: HITCH BRACKET ASSEMBLY

Dear MR. DUNCAN:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect or noncompliance information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records, as this is the information that will be made available to the public.

Makes/Models/Model Years:
COACHMEN/AURORA/2005
COACHMEN/EPIC/2005
COACHMEN/MIRADA/2005
COACHMEN/SANTARA/2005

NHTSA Campaign Number: 05V-092

Recall Date: February 25, 2005

Components:
TRAILER HITCHES

Potential Number of Units Affected: 251

Summary:
ON CERTAIN CLASS A MOTOR HOMES, THE REAR HITCH ATTACHMENT BRACKETS THAT CONNECT THE HITCH ASSEMBLY TO THE CHASSIS FRAME MAY CRACK AT THE 90 DEGREE BEND.

Consequence:
IF THIS WERE TO OCCUR, A COMPLETE SEPARATION OF THE HITCH ASSEMBLY FROM THE CHASSIS COULD OCCUR, RESULTING IN A CRASH DUE TO A LOSS OF CONTROL OF THE TOWED VEHICLE OR TRAILER.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL REPAIR THE HITCH ASSEMBLY ATTACHMENT BRACKETS. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON MARCH 31, 2005. OWNERS SHOULD CONTACT COACHMEN AT 1-800-453-6064.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS CAN ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236.

Effective October 21, 2004, a manufacturer must provide an estimated dealer notification date as well as an owner notification date (month/day/year) when submitting a defect/noncompliance report (Part 573.6).

Please provide the date of when Coachmen became aware of the recall.

Also provide the name, address and contact representative of the supplier of the bracket.

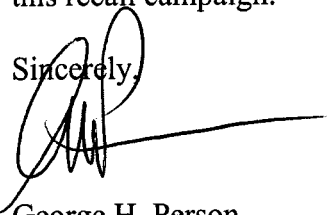
We have reviewed your proposed owner letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577.

Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. As stated in your report, the recall is expected to begin on March 31, 2005. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by July 30, 2005.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov or delia.lopez@nhtsa.dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division